

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The office action of June 1, 2004 has been carefully reviewed and these remarks are responsive thereto. Reconsideration and allowance of the instant application are respectfully requested. Claims 1-8 and 11-13 remain in this application. New claims 14-32 have been added. Claims 9 and 10 have been canceled and replaced with new claims 29 and 31.

Applicants have amended the specification to correct minor informalities discovered therein. Fig. 2 has been amended to replace reference label 40 with reference label 30 to correct a clerical error and to be consistent with the specification.

Applicants have amended the claims to improve the clarity of the invention and not for reasons related to patentability.

Claims 1-13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being unpatentable over Matthews et al., "Complete Reference FrontPage 2000," Public Release 1999 by Osborn/McGraw-Hill, CA ("Matthews"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

The action alleges that Matthews discloses all the features of independent claim 1. Claim 1 calls for, among other features, inserting immediately prior to the selected portion a first editing tag corresponding to the desired editing function; detecting object tag elements within the selected portion; inserting immediately prior to each object tag element within the selected portion a second editing tag corresponding to the desired editing function and inserting the second editing tag at the end of the selected portion; and inserting immediately after each object tag element within the selected portion the first editing tag, wherein the first and second editing tags are distinguishable from the object tag elements. To purportedly show these features, the action relies on pages 466-469 of Matthews and after reciting each of these features merely states:

(i.e. ... </p> ...immediately followed by a <p>...last paragraph has ended when a new one start...Figure 13-2. character style tags displayed... <B/ [sic] applies the Bold physical character style to the enclosed character).

Applicants do not understand how the action applies the cited portion of Matthews to the steps of claim 1. For example, what does the action contend corresponds to the first and second editing tags and and what about the object tag elements, <p> and <p/>? In any event, the

cited portion of Matthews does not teach or suggest at least the step of detecting object tag elements within the selected portion. Assuming the action relies on `` and `` as the first and second editing tags, respectively, no object tag elements are detected within a portion of text and none appear to exist between the portion bound by `` and ``. Indeed, no step of detecting object tag elements is described within a selected portion or otherwise. The tags `<p>` and `<p/>` are neither detected nor *within* a portion of the Web-based document to be edited. As such, Matthews also lacks a teach or suggestion of either inserting immediately prior to each object tag element within the selected portion a second editing tag corresponding to the desired editing function or inserting immediately after each object tag element within the selected portion the first editing tag.

In light of the foregoing, Matthews lacks a teaching or suggestion of every feature recited in claim 1. Thus, claim 1 is patentably distinguishable from Matthews. Claims 2-6, 27 and 28, which ultimately depend from claim 1, are considered allowable for the same reasons as claim 1 and further in view of the novel and non-obvious features recited therein.

Independent claims 7 and 13 were rejected over Matthews for the same reasons as claim 1. To the extent the arguments set forth with respect to claim 1 apply the same or similarly to claims 7 and 13, these claims are considered patentably distinct from Matthews for at least those reasons. Claims 8, 11, 12 and new claims 29-31, which ultimately depend from claim 7, and claims 14-26, which ultimately depend from claim 13, are considered allowable for the same reasons as their ultimate base claim and further in view of the novel and non-obvious features recited therein.

New claims 14-32 are fully supported by the specification and allowable for at the reasons set forth above.

Appln. No.: 09/847,606
Amendment dated September 1, 2004
Reply to Office Action of June 1, 2004

CONCLUSION

A Fee Transmittal is attached. If any additional fees are required or if an overpayment is made, the Commissioner is authorized to debit or credit our Deposit Account No. 19-0733, accordingly.

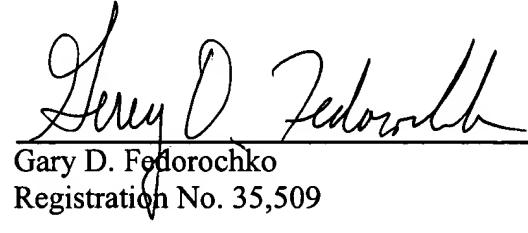
All rejections having been addressed, applicants respectfully submit that the instant application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully solicit prompt notification of the same.

Respectfully submitted,

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.

Dated: September 1, 2004

By:



Gary D. Fedorochko
Registration No. 35,509

1001 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001-4597
Tel: (202) 824-3000
Fax: (202) 824-3001

GDF:lab



Fig. 2

